



U.S. Department of Justice
United States Attorney
District of Kansas

NEWS RELEASE

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MAN FROM KANSAS CITY, MO. SENTENCED IN PLOT TO HARM HIS WIFE

KANSAS CITY, Kan. – United States Attorney Eric Melgren announced that **Frank Asaro, Jr.**, 55, Kansas City, was sentenced Sept. 13, 2004, by U.S. District Judge G. Thomas Van Bebber. Asaro was sentenced to **37 months in prison, without parole, followed by two years of supervised release.**

Asaro entered a guilty plea May 24, 2004, to one count of travel in interstate commerce with the intent to engage in conduct in violation of a protection order.

Melgren said that Asaro admitted at his plea that from Feb. 10, 2004, through Feb. 25, 2004, he talked to or met with an individual that he wanted to hire to seriously assault his ex-wife. This individual was actually an undercover detective with the Police Department of Kansas City, Mo. Asaro admitted that on Feb. 20, 2004, he met with the undercover officer and offered to pay \$2,000 if the undercover officer would go to his ex-wife's place of employment, severely beat her and cut her face with a knife. Asaro further admitted that he was arrested by law enforcement officers on Feb. 25, 2004, as he got out of the undercover officer's car following a meeting. Asaro admitted that on Feb. 4, 2004, a "Final Protection from Abuse Order" was issued by the District Court of Johnson County, Kan., that prohibited and provided protection against violence, threats and harassment by Asaro against his ex-wife.

Melgren commended the work of the FBI and the Police Department of Kansas City, Mo., in this investigation and Assistant U.S. Attorney Leon Patton in this prosecution.